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| NARRATIVE | | | | | |
| **Description** | **5 Exceptional** | **4 Skilled** | **3 Proficient** | **2 Developing** | **1 Inadequate** |
| **Exposition:**  The text sets up a story by introducing the event/conflict, characters, and setting. | The text creatively engages the  reader by setting out a well-developed conflict, situation, or observation and its significance. It establishes one or mul- tiple points of view and introduces  a narrator and/or complex characters. | The text engages and orients the reader by setting out a conflict, situation, or observation and its significance. It establishes one or multiple points of view and introduces a narrator and/or  well-developed characters. | The text orients the reader by setting out a conflict, situation, or observation and its significance.  It establishes one point of view and introduces a narrator and/or developed characters. | The text provides a setting with a vague conflict, situation, or observation with an unclear point of view. It introduces a narrator and/or underdeveloped characters. | The text provides a setting that is unclear with a vague conflict, situation, or observation. It has an unclear point of view and underdeveloped narrator and/or characters. |
| **Narrative Techniques and**  **Development:**  The story is developed using dialogue, pacing, description, reflection and multiple plot lines. | The text demonstrates sophisticated narrative techniques—such as engaging dialogue, artistic pacing, vivid description, complex reflection, and multiple plot lines—to develop  experiences, events, and/or characters. | The text demonstrates deliberate use of narrative techniques—such as dialogue, pacing, description,  reflection, and multiple plot lines—to  develop experiences, events, and/or characters. | The text uses narrative techniques, such as dialogue, description, reflection, to showing events, and/or experiences. | The text uses some narrative techniques, such as dialogue or description and merely retells events and/or experiences. | The text lacks narrative techniques and merely retells events and/or experiences. |
| **Organization and Cohesion:** The text follows a logical sequence of events. | The text creates a seamless progression of experiences or events using multiple techniques—such as chronology, flashback, foreshadowing, suspense, etc.—to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole. These techniques build toward a crafted tone and outcome. | The text creates a smooth progres- sion of experiences or events using a variety of techniques—such as chronology, flashback, foreshadowing, suspense, etc.—to sequence events  so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole. These techniques build toward a clear tone and outcome. | The text creates a logical progression of experiences or events using some techniques—such as chronology, flashback, foreshadowing, suspense, etc.—to sequence events so that  they build on one another to create  a coherent whole. These techniques build toward a particular tone and outcome. | The text creates a sequence or progression of experiences or events. The text lacks an identifiable tone and/or outcome. | The text lacks a sequence or pro- gression of experiences or events or presents an illogical sequence  of events. The text lacks an identi-  fiable tone and/or outcome. |
| **Style and Conventions:**  The text uses sensory language and details to create a vivid picture of  the events, setting, and characters. | The text uses eloquent words and phrases, showing details and rich sensory language and mood to convey a realistic picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/or characters. | The text uses precise words and phrases, showing details and con- trolled sensory language and mood to convey a realistic picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/or characters. | The text uses words and phrases, telling details and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/or characters. | The text uses words and phrases, telling details to convey experiences, events, settings, and/or characters. | The text merely tells experiences, events, settings, and/or characters. |
| **Conclusion:**  Conclusion that follows from the course of the narrative. The conclusion provides a reflection on or resolution of the events. | The text moves to a conclusion that artfully follows from and thoughtfully reflects on what is experienced, ob- served, or resolved over the course of the narrative. | The text builds to a conclusion that logically follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative. | The text provides a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative. | The text provides a conclusion that follows from what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative. | The text may provide a conclusion to the events of the narrative. |

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